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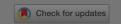
Articles

Can ecotourism deliver real economic, social, and environmental benefits? A study of the Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica

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Abstract

Doubt persists about ecotourism's ability to make tangible contributions to conservation and deliver benefits for host communities. This work in Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula tests the hypothesis that ecotourism in this region is more effective at improving well-being for local residents, at enhancing their access to key resources and

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many local ecotourism workers plan to launch their own businesses. The data offer a

convincing rebuttal to arguments that ecotourism does little to address poverty or disparities in access to resources and equally rebuts claims that ecotourism is simply a part of the "neoliberal conservation toolkit" that cannot help but exacerbate the very inequalities it purports to address.

Q Keywords: ecotourism community development conservation

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Anne Sc branch of



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